

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:19-cv-00170-CJN**

CHAVIS v. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
et al

Assigned to: Judge Carl J. Nichols  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 01/23/2019

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of  
Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff**

**MICHAEL CHAVIS**

represented by **Stephen Michael Kissinger**  
FEDERAL DEFENDER SERVICES OF  
EASTERN TENNESSEE  
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**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

V.

**Defendant**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE**

represented by **Benton Gregory Peterson**  
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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**TERMINATED: 02/10/2020**  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Defendant**

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION**

represented by **Benton Gregory Peterson**  
(See above for address)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

**Scott Leeson Sroka**  
(See above for address)  
**TERMINATED: 02/10/2020**  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
01/23/2019		<b>Initiating Pleading &amp; IFP Application Received on 01/23/2019.</b> A copy of the docket sheet has been mailed to the address of record for the pro se party. (zef, ) (Entered: 01/30/2019)
01/23/2019	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE filed by MICHAEL CHAVIS. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet)(zef, ) (Entered: 01/30/2019)
01/23/2019	<u>2</u>	MOTION for Leave to Proceed in forma pauperis by MICHAEL CHAVIS (zef, ) (Entered: 01/30/2019)
02/07/2019	<u>3</u>	FIAT ORDER granting <u>2</u> Motion for Leave to Proceed in forma pauperis. "Leave to file without prepayment of costs GRANTED." Signed by Judge Trevor N. McFadden on 02/07/2019. (zsb) (Entered: 02/12/2019)
02/07/2019		Case Assigned to Judge Christopher R. Cooper. (zsb) (Entered: 02/12/2019)
02/12/2019	<u>4</u>	SUMMONS (4) Issued as to FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General. (zef, ) (Entered: 02/12/2019)
02/26/2019	<u>5</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Scott Leeson Sroka on behalf of All Defendants (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 02/26/2019)
03/08/2019	<u>6</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 2/19/2019. Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 3/21/2019. (ztd) (Entered: 03/11/2019)
03/21/2019	<u>7</u>	ANSWER to <u>1</u> Complaint by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.(Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 03/21/2019)
03/21/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are a complaint and an answer. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties promptly confer and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure by April 4, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 3/21/2019. (lccrc1) (Entered: 03/21/2019)
03/22/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 4/4/2019 (lsj) (Entered: 03/22/2019)
04/01/2019	<u>8</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE served on 3/25/2019, RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 3/25/19. (ztd) (Entered: 04/04/2019)
04/04/2019	<u>9</u>	MOTION for Extension of Time to <i>Submit Joint Motion to Establish Briefing Schedule</i> by MICHAEL CHAVIS (Kissinger, Stephen) (Entered: 04/04/2019)
04/04/2019	<u>10</u>	STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 04/04/2019)
04/04/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of Defendants' <u>10</u> Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties file a joint proposed schedule for disclosure or briefing by May 6, 2019. It is further ORDERED that Plaintiff's <u>9</u> Motion for Extension of Time is DENIED as MOOT. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 4/4/2019. (lccrc1) (Entered: 04/04/2019)
04/10/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 5/6/2019 (lsj) (Entered: 04/10/2019)
05/01/2019	<u>11</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION served on 4/23/2019 (zsb) (Entered: 05/03/2019)
05/06/2019	<u>12</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 05/06/2019)

05/07/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of the parties' <u>12</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties file a joint proposed schedule for production or briefing by June 6, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 5/7/2019. (lccrc1) (Entered: 05/07/2019)
05/07/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Schedule for Production or Briefing Schedule due by 6/6/2019. (znbn) (Entered: 05/07/2019)
06/04/2019	<u>13</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 06/04/2019)
06/07/2019		MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of the parties' <u>13</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties file a further status report by September 16, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 6/7/2019. (lccrc1) (Entered: 06/07/2019)
06/07/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 9/16/2019 (lsj) (Entered: 06/07/2019)
06/24/2019		Case directly reassigned to Judge Carl J. Nichols. Judge Christopher R. Cooper is no longer assigned to the case. (ztnr) (Entered: 06/24/2019)
09/16/2019	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 09/16/2019)
09/20/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>14</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before November 18, 2019. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on September 20, 2019. (lccjn3) (Entered: 09/20/2019)
09/20/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 11/18/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 09/22/2019)
11/18/2019	<u>15</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 11/18/2019)
12/11/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>15</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before December 18, 2019. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on December 11, 2019. (lccjn3) (Entered: 12/11/2019)
12/11/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 12/18/2019. (zcdw) (Entered: 12/11/2019)
12/18/2019	<u>16</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 12/18/2019)
12/23/2019		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>16</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before January 21, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on December 23, 2019. (lccjn3) (Entered: 12/23/2019)
12/23/2019		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 1/21/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 12/24/2019)
01/21/2020	<u>17</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Sroka, Scott) (Entered: 01/21/2020)
01/28/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>17</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before February 21, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on January 28, 2020. (lccjn3) (Entered: 01/28/2020)
01/28/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 2/21/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 01/30/2020)
02/10/2020	<u>18</u>	NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTION OF COUNSEL by Benton Gregory Peterson on behalf of All Defendants Substituting for attorney SCOTT SROKA (Peterson, Benton) (Entered: 02/10/2020)
02/21/2020	<u>19</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by MICHAEL CHAVIS. (Kissinger, Stephen) (Entered: 02/21/2020)

03/02/2020		VACATED PURSUANT TO COURT'S ORDER OF 3/30/2020....MINUTE ORDER. In light of the Parties' <u>19</u> Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the Parties shall submit an additional Joint Status Report on or before March 30, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on March 2, 2020. (lccjn3) Modified on 4/2/2020 (zcdw). (Entered: 03/02/2020)
03/02/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 3/30/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 03/12/2020)
03/25/2020	<u>20</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Stay by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration, # <u>2</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Peterson, Benton). Added MOTION for Extension of Time to on 3/26/2020 (znmw). (Entered: 03/25/2020)
03/30/2020		MINUTE ORDER. Upon review of Defendants' <u>20</u> Motion to Vacate Scheduling Order and <u>20</u> Motion for a Stay and Extension of the Processing, Production, and Reporting Deadlines, and considering that they are unopposed, it is hereby ORDERED that the Motions are GRANTED. It is further ORDERED that this action is STAYED and that the Court's March 2, 2020 Order requiring a Joint Status Report to be submitted on or before March 30, 2020 is VACATED: Defendants shall submit a Status Report on or before April 30, 2020, and every thirty days thereafter, apprising the Court of FBI's Record/Information Dissemination Section and, if operations have resumed, proposing a revised schedule for further proceeding. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on March 30, 2020. (lccjn3) (Entered: 03/30/2020)
03/30/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Status Report due by 4/30/2020. Case Stayed. (zcdw) (Entered: 04/02/2020)
04/30/2020	<u>21</u>	STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration)(Peterson, Benton) (Entered: 04/30/2020)
05/05/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of Defendants' <u>21</u> Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendants shall submit an additional Status Report on or before June 1, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on May 5, 2020. (lccjn3) (Entered: 05/05/2020)
05/05/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Defendant's Status Report due by 6/1/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 05/05/2020)
06/03/2020	<u>22</u>	STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Peterson, Benton) (Entered: 06/03/2020)
06/15/2020		MINUTE ORDER. In light of Defendants' <u>22</u> Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendants shall submit an additional Status Report on or before July 1, 2020. Signed by Judge Carl J. Nichols on June 15, 2020. (lccjn3) (Entered: 06/15/2020)
06/15/2020		Set/Reset Deadlines/Hearings: Joint Status Report due by 7/1/2020. (zcdw) (Entered: 06/17/2020)
07/01/2020	<u>23</u>	STATUS REPORT by FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (Peterson, Benton) (Entered: 07/01/2020)